



Wicomico Animal Population and wellness Assistance

Project #

22-7025

County: Maryland

Number of Cats Spayed: 45

Number of Dogs Spayed: 13

Number of Cats Neutered: 22

Number of Dogs Neutered: 21

Amount Received: \$9,962.00

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$3,751.50

Project Synopsis:

Our project provided free spay/neuter and rabies vaccinations for low income individuals with an income of \$25,000 or less and for households with an income of \$48,600 or less. We were able to spay/neuter 101 animals for the residents of Wicomico County.



Maryland Department of Agriculture
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Project Description:

The Humane Society of Wicomico County was founded in 1969, we are a 501(c)(3). Our mission is dedicated to saving the lives of at-risk animals, and matching pets with their forever families while providing premier temporary care and shelter for the animals in our community. We employ a full-time veterinarian and operate a full service spay/neuter clinic 4 days a week. We provide many other services for our community such as vaccines, microchipping, well-checks, specialty surgeries, and emergency surgeries. We work together with other local rescue organizations and shelters to provide medical care for their animals as well. The goal of the project was to provide 170 free spay/neuters for our low income community.

Summary of Approach:

We chose to target low income residents in our community, because we felt those would be the people that were less likely to get their animals spayed or neutered. We attempted to reach them through social media, local news stations, local print advertisements, and flyers places throughout our community. We also provided the information to anyone taking advantage of our community food bank. Our goal was to reduce the number of unwanted litters being born and stray animals that would come through our facility. Our Live Release has consistently increased over the years with many months falling into "no kill" statistics. We average around 85% for the year.

Accomplishments:

We were able to perform 101 free spay/neuter surgeries in our clinic for low income residents of Wicomico County. Even though we were diligent about getting the word out, not everyone was willing to take advantage of what was being offered. I am hoping next year we will find a way to target some of the more problem areas in Wicomico County. We were able to eliminate so many unwanted animals in our local area. This is much needed since we are seeing a huge increase in stray holds and abandoned animals since Covid. Many are extreme medical needs cases which we attribute to loss of income in our local area.



Maryland Department of Agriculture
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Lessons Learned:

All in all I was very pleased with the amount of people we were able to help. I think in the future we need to not limit the amount of animals per household and possibly raise the income requirements. We would love to be able to expand the use of this grant money to help with TNR's to lessen the amount of feral cats we take in and to be able to give the community an avenue to assist in the trapping. We did take advantage of an extension that was offered and ended up with \$3,751.50 in excess funds. We will be returning that amount to the Department of Ag.

For More Information Contact:

Kimberly L Nock

Organization Name and Address:

5130 Citation Drive

Wicomico Humane

Salisbury, Maryland 21804

Phone: 410-749-7603

Email: execdirector@wicomicohumane.org



Maryland Department of Agriculture
Spay and Neuter Grants Program

